Standardization of medical services

495. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Clinical Establishment Act has been proposed for streamlining hospitals and diagnostic centers to standardize medical services and to create a central registry where the hospitals and the diagnostic would be registered at the district level;

(b) whether the hospital would be connected through net-work so that Government would notify within six hours of outbreak of an epidemic;

(c) whether his Ministry proposes changes in the curriculum and medical practices;

(d) if so, by when this decision is likely to be implemented; and

(e) to what extent it would be helpful to improve the medical services in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Integrated Disease Surveillance Project is designed for inter connectivity of 800 sites through Broadband and/or Statellite Connectivity to facilitate transmission of disease related information including disease alerts. These sites include all State/District Headquarters and Government Medical Colleges.

(c) to (e) Medical Council of India have suggested changes in Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate Medical Courses Curriculum.

Dengue and Chikungunya cases

496. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister called for restructuring his Ministry's Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme due to its failure to check the spread of Dengue and Chikungunya in the country;

(b) whether during a review meeting with senior officials of the various Ministries it was suggested to restructure the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme and transform it into and early warning system;

(c) if so, what are the other suggestions made by the PM;

(d) to what extent his Ministry has considered them; and

(e) by when they are likely to be revamped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Prime Minister reviewed Dengue, Chickungunya and other vector-borne diseases on 02nd November 2006 and directed that the Integrated Disease Surveillance Project should incorporate early warning system as part of disease surveillance under National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) and National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The Prime Minister also suggested that there should be close interaction between the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and local bodies on sharing of information, health alerts, and orientation sessions for health professionals in order to prevent the epidemic. Steps for improved sanitation and prevention of mosquitogenic were also suggested.

(d) and (e) Ministry has initiated the process to establish and manage Information Technology network connecting all States, District headquarters and Government Medical Colleges as well. National Informatics Centre has been asked to develop a centralised Call Centre to receive outbreak alerts. Baseline survey of laboratories in all districts covered under Phase-I and II of the programme has been carried out for their strengthening. Rapid Response Teams have also been identified & trained in these districts guidelines for action by villages and sanitation committees have been sent to States. These activities have been envisaged to help the State Governments to rapidly detect and respond to outbreak of epidemic prone diseases.

Increase in health care spending

497. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cost of health care in the country is increasing consistently over the last few years;